

Agriculture and Forestry Technical Work Group

Draft Policy Option: A8. Reduce Permanent Conversion of Farm and Rangelands to Developed Uses

1. Policy Description:

- a. Lay description of proposed policy action: *Reduce the rate at which existing crop and rangelands are converted to developed uses. The carbon sequestered in soils and above-ground biomass is higher in crop and rangelands than in developed land uses.*
- b. Policy Design Parameters:
 - i. Implementation level(s) beyond BAU: *Program goal of reducing the rate of crop and rangeland loss to X% per year.*
 - ii. Timing of implementation: *Percentage reduction in the rate of crop and rangeland losses between 2006-2020, including percentage reduced by 2010 and 2020 and any necessary ramp up period. Percentage reduction by 2050.*
 - iii. Implementing parties:
 - iv. Other
- c. Implementation Mechanism(s): Indicate which mechanisms are to be used, and describe the specific approach that is proposed
 - i. Information and education
 - ii. Technical assistance
 - iii. Funding mechanisms and or incentives
 - iv. Voluntary and or negotiated agreements
 - v. Codes and standards
 - vi. Market based mechanisms
 - vii. Pilots and demos
 - viii. Research and development
 - ix. Reporting
 - x. Registry
 - xi. Other?

2. BAU Policies/Programs, if applicable:
 - a. Description of policy/program #1
 - b. Etc.

3. Types(s) of GHG Benefit(s):
 - a. CO2: *Conservation of agricultural lands retains the ability of the land to sequester carbon in soil and biomass.*
 - b. CH4: *Not applicable*
 - c. N2O: *Not applicable*
 - d. HFC's, SFC's: *Not applicable*
 - e. Black Carbon: *Not applicable*

4. Types of Ancillary Benefits and or Costs, if applicable:
 - a. *Transportation emissions may also be reduced by directing growth to more efficient locations.*
 - b. Etc.

5. Estimated GHG Savings and Costs Per MMTCO₂e:
 - a. Summary Table of:
 - i. GHG potential in 2012, 2020, 2050
 - ii. Net Cost per MMTCO₂e in 2012, 2020, 2050
 - b. Insert Excel Worksheet showing summary GHG reduction potential and net cost

6. Data Sources, Methods and Assumptions:
 - a. Data Sources
 - b. Quantification Methods
 - c. Key Assumptions

7. Key Uncertainties if applicable:
 - a. Benefits
 - b. Costs

8. Description of Ancillary Benefits and Costs, if applicable:

- a. Description of issue #1
- b. Description issue #2
- c. Etc.

9. Description of Feasibility Issues, if applicable:

- a. Description of issue #1
- b. Description of issue #2
- c. Etc.

10. Status of Group Approval:

- a. Pending
- b. Completed

11. Level of Group Support:

- a. Unanimous Consent
- b. Supermajority
- c. Majority
- d. Minority

12. Barriers to consensus, if applicable (less than unanimous consent):

- a. Description of barrier #1
- b. Description of barrier #2
- c. Etc.